

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Original) An image forming method comprising the steps of:  
reading an image to obtain image data, and producing a password;  
receiving designation of a destination printer, and designation of an addressee;  
transmitting the image data and the password to the designated printer, and  
transmitting the password to the designated addressee by an E-mail; and  
if the password transmitted by E-mail is entered into the printer and the password matches the password transmitted together with the image data, performing printing on the basis of the image data.

2. (Currently Amended) An image forming system comprising:  
a scanner that reads image and generates image data, said scanner receiving designation of a destination printer and designation of an addressee, and said scanner transmitting the read image data and the password to the designated printer and transmitting the password to the designated addressee by an electronic mail; and  
a printer that prints on the basis of the image data in case that a password which is entered into the printer by a user matches with the password transmitted together with the image data.

3. (Currently Amended) An image communicating apparatus which is to be connected to an image data receiving device via a network, wherein said image communicating device comprises:

an image data transmitter which transmits image data to said image data receiving device;

a setting unit which sets a password specifying the image data to be transmitted; and

a mail transmitter which transmits the set password by an E-mail.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The image communicating apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the password is a password which is requested to be entered as a condition for starting image formation based on the image data received by the image data receiving device.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The image communicating apparatus according to claim 4, further comprising:

a receiving unit which receives completion notification which is transmitted in reply to entering of the password and image formation.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The image communicating device according to claim 3, wherein the password is a password which is requested to be entered as a condition for starting image data transmission by said image data transmitter.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The image communicating apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising an address entering unit which enters a destination address of the E-mail.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The image communicating apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising:

a selector which selects an image data receiving device to which the image data are to be transmitted, from plural image data receiving devices which are connected to one another via the network; and

a determining member which determines a destination of the E-mail by the mail transmitter, in accordance with a result of the selection by the selector.

9. (Currently Amended) An image reading apparatus which is to be connected to an image data receiving device via a network, wherein said image reading device comprises:

a reading unit which reads an original;

an image data transmitter which transmits image data which are obtained by reading the original, to the image data receiving device;

a setting unit which sets a password specifying the image data to be transmitted; and

a mail transmitter which transmits the set password by an E-mail.

10. (Currently Amended) An image forming system having an image communicating device which performs communication of image data, an image

forming device which forms an image on a printing sheet based on the received image data, and an E-mail receiving device, wherein said image communicating device comprises:

an image data transmitter which transmits image data to said image forming device via a network;

a setting unit which sets a password specifying the image data to be transmitted; and

a mail transmitter which transmits the set password to an address of said E-mail receiving device by an E-mail, and wherein said image forming device comprises:

a receiver which receives the image data transmitted by said image communicating device;

a storage which stores the received image data;

an image forming unit which forms an image on a printing sheet based on the image data stored in said storage;

a receiving unit which receives a password; and

a controller which controls said image forming unit based on whether the set password is received or not.

11. (Original) An image communication method of communicating image data via a network, comprising the steps of:

transmitting image data;

setting a password specifying the image data to be transmitted; and

transmitting the set password by an E-mail.

12. (Original) A computer-readable recording medium on which procedures of communicating image data via a network are recorded, wherein a program is recorded on the recording medium, the program causing the computer to implement the steps of:

transmitting image data;

setting a password specifying the image data to be transmitted; and

transmitting the set password by an E-mail.

13. (New) An image forming method comprising the steps of:

obtaining image data, and producing a password;

transmitting the image data and the password to a designated printer;

transmitting the password to a designated addressee by an E-mail; and

if the password transmitted by E-mail is entered into the designated printer and the password matches the password transmitted together with the image data, performing printing on the basis of the image data.

14. (New) An image forming method, comprising:

identifying a printer as a designated printer;

transmitting image data to the designated printer;

transmitting certification information to a designated addressee via an e-mail;

and

printing the image data on the designated printer if the certification information is approved.

15. (New) An image forming method, comprising:

transmitting a password to an addressee at a first computer via e-mail;

inputting the certification information to a designated printer;

confirming the certification information; and

printing image data by the designated printer that the designated printer received from a second computer if the certification information is approved.